

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CCMS: GEOTHERMAL ENERGY MEETING (IMPROVED
MEANS OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND OTHER MATTERS)

REF: STATE 11322

1. AT CCMS (NATO'S COMMITTEE ON THE CHALLENGES OF
MODERN SOCIETY) GEOTHERMAL ENERGY MEETING IN
CALIFORNIA IN OCTOBER 1973, NEW ZEALAND REPRESENTATIVE
E.W. STILLWELL OF MINISTRY OF WORKS, WAITAKEI,
MENTIONED TO HODSOLL OF WHITE HOUSE THAT HE THOUGHT
NEW ZEALAND WOULD BE WILLING TO HOST, WITH THE
COOPERATION OF THE UNITED STATES, A MEETING IN
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NEW ZEALAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF LAUNCHING A PROJECT

TO IMPROVE GEOTHERMAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND CERTAIN OTHER TECHNICAL MATTERS UNDER THE CCMS GEOTHERMAL ENERGY PILOT STUDY. REPRESENTATIVES FROM CANADA, FRG, FRANCE, ICELAND, ITALY, PORTUGAL, TURKEY, JAPAN, MEXICO, NEW ZEALAND, THE US AND THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AGREED IN CALIFORNIA THAT SUCH A MEETING AT AN UNSPECIFIED LOCATION WOULD BE DESIRABLE IN EARLY 74. STILLWELL COMMENTED TO HODSOLL THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HIS ORGANIZATION BUREAUCRATICALLY, IF THE US, AS PILOT COUNTRY FOR THIS CCMS PROJECT, FORMALLY APPROACHED GNZ AT A HIGH LEVEL TO URGE NEW ZEALAND TO HOST THIS MEETING.

2. IN LIGHT OF PRIME MINISTER KIRK'S SUGGESTION TO THE PRESIDENT DURING HIS OCTOBER 1973 VISIT TO WASHINGTON FOR INCREASED COOPERATION IN ENERGY FIELD, CHARGE IS REQUESTED TO URGE GNZ AT APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVEL AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND/OR MINISTRY OF WORKS TO HOST A MEETING AT THE TECHNICAL-POLICY LEVEL TO SET UP THIS PROJECT, HOPEFULLY IN APRIL 1974. IN OPINION OF US GEOTHERMAL EXPERTS, NEW ZEALAND WOULD BE IDEAL LOCATION FOR HOLDING MEETING IN VIEW OF INTERNATIONAL INTEREST IN HIGH LEVEL OF NEW ZEALAND EXPERTISE AND RESOURCES IN THIS FIELD. INSPECTION OF NEW ZEALAND GEOTHERMAL SITES AND INSTALLATIONS WOULD BE ADDITIONAL ATTRACTION. THIS PROJECT WOULD NOT CONFLICT WITH PROPOSED BILATERAL ENERGY AGREEMENT WITH NEW ZEALAND, GEOTHERMAL PORTION OF WHICH WOULD BE SUBSUMED IN PART BY CCMS PILOT STUDY.

3. IF GNZ WILLING TO HOST MEETING, US AS PILOT COUNTRY FOR THIS PROJECT WOULD BE WILLING TO CO-CHAIR IF GNZ THOUGHT DESIRABLE. WE HAVE REQUESTED IN REFTEL NAMES OF COORDINATORS FOR THIS GEOTHERMAL ENERGY PILOT STUDY IN EACH OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES. WE WOULD BE WILLING TO ASSIST UPON REQUEST, BY APPROACHING OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO DETERMINE IF THEY BELIEVE MEETING IN NEW ZEALAND WOULD BE FEASIBLE FOR THIS PURPOSE,
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IN VIEW OF DISTANCE FROM EUROPE. IF EUROPEANS REACT FAVORABLY AS WE BELIEVE THEY WILL, WE CAN FORWARD NAMES OF COUNTRY COORDINATORS TO WHOM INVITATIONS CAN BE SENT.

4. DEPARTMENT IS POUCHING TO EMBASSY COPY OF NATO DOCUMENT ON CCMS GEOTHERMAL ENERGY PILOT STUDY FOR TRANSMITTAL TO PROJECT COORDINATOR IN NEW ZEALAND.

THIS DOCUMENT DESCRIBES RESULTS OF OCTOBER MEETING IN CALIFORNIA WHERE IT WAS AGREED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ELEVEN PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES THAT ONE OF FOUR PROMISING INDIVIDUAL PROJECT PROPOSALS IN THIS CCMS PILOT STUDY WOULD BE TO SET UP LINKED REGIONAL EFFORTS AROUND THE WORLD TO IMPROVE GEOTHERMAL ENERGY INFORMATION EXCHANGE. THESE EFFORTS COULD BE COORDINATED IN THREE INFORMATION CENTERS, POSSIBLY IN NEW ZEALAND, THE US AND ITALY. STANDARDIZING A GLOSSARY OF GEOTHERMAL TERMS, LITERATURE SEARCHES, ESTABLISHING STANDARD MEANS OF COLLECTION OF IMPORTANT FUNDAMENTAL DATA AND ABSTRACTS AS WELL AS TIMELY DISSEMINATION THROUGH PERIODIC SEMINARS

AND PUBLICATIONS WERE MENTIONED AS POSSIBLE TASKS FOR THIS PROJECT.

5. IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSING IMPROVED MEANS FOR GEOTHERMAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE, US BELIEVES MEETING COULD ALSO DISCUSS COOPERATIVE PROJECTS IN CERTAIN TECHNICAL AREAS WHICH WERE DETAILED IN PARA 14 OF NATO DOCUMENT AC/274-D/38:

--RESERVOIR MECHANICS

--BETTER TECHNIQUES FOR PREVENTING SCALING AND CORROSION

--BETTER METHODS FOR LOCATING AND ASSESSING EXPLOITABLE GEOTHERMAL FIELDS

--BETTER AND SAFER DRILLING TECHNIQUES

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--BETTER METHODS FOR RESERVOIR STIMULATION

--BETTER METHODS FOR MINIMIZING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

--STANDARDIZATION OF ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES.

US INTENDS TO CIRCULATE PROPOSAL WITH RESPECT TO ONE OR TWO OF THESE SUBJECTS IN EARLY FEBRUARY. WE WOULD LOOK TO OTHER COUNTRIES TO INITIATE PROJECTS IN OTHER AREAS.

6. EMBASSY SHOULD NOTE THAT CATALOG OF POSSIBLE PROJECTS LISTED IN PARA 5 ABOVE IS ADDITIONAL LAUNDRY LIST OF POSSIBLE AREAS OF COOPERATION IN ADDITION

TO SPECIFIC PROJECTS WHICH WILL BE DEALT WITH IN
OTHER MEETINGS: SPECIFICALLY: NON-ELECTRICAL USE OF
GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES; MULTI-PURPOSE UTILIZATION
PROCESSES AND DISPOSAL OF GEOTHERMAL BRINES; SMALL
GEOTHERMAL POWER PLANTS; AND EXPLOITATION OF HOT DRY
ROCKS.

7. FYI. IF SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF EUROPEAN EXPERTS
COULD NOT ATTEND MEETING BECAUSE OF DISTANCE FROM
EUROPE, THEN US WILL PROBABLY APPROACH ITALY TO HOST
MEETING. THEREFORE IN VIEW OF PREPARATIONS NECESSARY
FOR SETTING UP MEETING, DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE
GNZ RESPONSE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, HOPEFULLY BEFORE
THE END OF JANUARY. END FYI. KISSINGER

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